

When

Thursday, June 15th, 2006

Where

Red Lion Olympia Hotel
2300 Evergreen Park Drive
Olympia, WA 98502-6008

Sponsored by:

Washington State Executive Ethics Board
Public Disclosure Commission
Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission
King County Board of Ethics
Commission on Judicial Conduct
Legislative Ethics Board
Attorney General's Office

Name: _____

Title: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: (____) _____

Fax: (____) _____

E-Mail: _____

Do you serve on a Board or Commission? If yes, on which board or commission:

☐ Washington State Executive Ethics Board

☐ Commission on Judicial Conduct

☐ Legislative Ethics Board

☐ Public Disclosure Commission

☐ King County Board of Ethics

☐ Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission

☐ Other public board or commission,
please list: _____

**PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY ALL
REGISTRATIONS**
(TIN# 91-6001060)

To register, send the completed registration form and a check for \$125, payable to the Attorney General's Office by May 31, 2006 to:

**Attorney General
Accounting Services
PO Box 40107
Olympia, WA 98504-0107**

You will receive confirmation of registration, hotel information, driving directions and other information via e-mail.

Questions?

Contact: **Ruthann Bryant**
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2006
Washington State
Ethics
Conference

Thursday, June 15th

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Registration
Space is Limited - Act Now!

2006 Washington State

Ethics Conference

Accountability in Government: Ethics

Agenda

- 7:30 – 9:00 Registration
- 9:00 – 9:30 Opening Remarks: **Rob McKenna**,
Attorney General
- 9:30 – 10:00 Plenary session - **Graham Johnson**, *Former Executive Director of the Public Disclosure Commission* - Historical perspective on the creation of Ethics Agencies in Washington
- 10:00 – 10:15 **Break**
- 10:15 – 11:45 **Concurrent Sessions I**
- A. Whistleblower Complaints: What and Why?
 - B. Do I have a Conflict of Interest? What Do I Do About it?
 - C. Measuring and Communicating Success – The Why's and How's
- 12:00 – 12:30 **Lunch**
- 12:30 – 1:00 **Brean Briggs** - Center for Justice
- 1:00 – 1:15 **Break**
- 1:15 – 2:45 **Concurrent Sessions II**
- A. Claiming Political Offense is a Good Defense
 - B. Talking the Talk – Is anybody Listening?
 - C. Informing the public and campaigning for votes: Where (and how) should the line be drawn?
- 2:45 – 3:00 **Break**
- 3:00 – 4:15 **Concurrent Sessions III**
- A. Gavel to Gavel: Best Practices for Boards & Commissions
 - B. Lobbyist Reporting: Transparency in the 21st Century
 - C. Ethics and Cultural Competence – Can they Peacefully Coexist?

Whistleblower Complaints: What and Why?

Whistleblower complaints are filed when someone believes a government official has committed a wrongdoing. What are the benefits to filing a whistleblower complaint? What happens to the wrongdoer? Is the whistleblower afforded protections? What happens when retaliation occurs? What recourse does the whistleblower have? This session will answer those questions and others as we hear from experts in the field.

Do I Have a Conflict of Interest? What Do I Do About it?

This session is designed to help identify potential conflicts of interest. Our panelists will discuss various types of conflicts that an employee may encounter, and what to do when you discover you may have one.

Measuring and Communicating Success – The Whys and Hows

We're living in a fast-paced, data driven world. Are you effectively gathering and using data? This session is for the manager who wants to use data to measure success and communicate results. Special consideration will be given to 1) the role of data in decision-making, 2) distinguishing between variation and change, 3) setting and managing to meaningful targets and goals, and 4) becoming a better user and communicator of data.

Claiming Political Offense is a Good Defense

Ethics enforcement agencies contend daily with the challenge of processing allegations presented by complainants who have some form of agenda – personal, political, or otherwise. Does the motivation for the complaint determine its validity? How can an agency constructively deal with an accusation of “politically-motivated” charges and maintain the public's confidence in the integrity of its process?

Talking the Talk – Is Anybody Listening?

Does your organization offer employee Ethics Training? If not, should it? If you build an Ethics training program, who will come? Who should come? How do you reach them? Can ethics training be entertaining without compromising the seriousness of the subject? A panel of ethics trainers from government agencies and private industry will address these and other questions.

Informing the Public and Campaigning for Votes: Where (and How) Should the Line be Drawn?

From last year's statewide vote on whether to repeal the gas tax, to Seattle's vote on whether to build the monorail, ballot measures often lead to complaints that public officials are improperly using public resources to influence the vote. And it's a rare election cycle that office holders don't face charges of using public resources for political purposes. When is a fact sheet a fact sheet and when is it a campaign piece? When is a newsletter informative and when is it a poorly disguised campaign flyer? Are there objective standards that can be put in place, or do we just “know it when we see it?”

Gavel to Gavel: Best Practices for Boards & Commissions

Meet the citizens who volunteer to resolve the ethics dilemmas of our day and work to create the bridge between the public's interest and the organization's goals. Learn from those who lead our citizen boards about best practices, how they steer a straight course, and lessons learned along the way. This panel includes ethics leaders from city, county and state governments, as well as non-profit organizations, so bring your questions for these insiders drawn from the citizen ranks.

Lobbyist Reporting: Transparency in the 21st Century

An examination of lobbyist rules, reporting and public disclosure at the federal, state and local levels of government in light of the recent “scandals” in our nation's capital. Does lobbyist reporting serve a purpose? Are current disclosure and reporting requirements sufficient? What changes are needed? A panel of elected officials and lobbyists will explore these questions and more as we look at Transparency in the 21st Century.

Ethics and Cultural Competence – Can they Peacefully Coexist?

Principles of fairness dictate that similarly-situated people be treated the same. But – the reality of diversity means that we don't all share the same expectations and norms. This panel will discuss the challenges of maintaining ethical standards in government while respecting personal cultural differences, recognizing and challenging ethnocentrism, accounting for differences in value orientation, and honing skill at recognizing social interaction cues.